PARTITION A DATABASE CONTAINING 102 A TOPOLOGY OF A NETWORK TO FORM A WORKING DATABASE AND AN ACTIVE DATABASE 104 DISCOVER THE **NETWORK** UPDATE THE NETWORK TOPOLOGY IN THE 106 WORKING DATABASE BASED ON THE DISCOVERING WHILE PROVIDING CLIENTS WITH ACCESS TO THE NETWORK TOPOLOGY IN THE ACTIVE DATABASE 108 NO DISCOVERY COMPLETE? YES 110 EXCHANGE CONNECTIONS OF THE WORKING AND ACTIVE DATABASES SO THAT THE FORMERLY ACTIVE DATABASE IS THE WORKING DATABASE AND THE FORMERLY WORKING DATABASE IS THE ACTIVE DATABASE

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FIGURE 1

SELECT A FIRST ONE OF THE PLURALITY OF DATABASES THAT 202 CONTAINS A TOPOLOGY OF THE NETWORK, AS AN ACTIVE DATABASE ACCESSIBLE BY CLIENTS SELECT A SECOND ONE OF THE PLURALITY OF DATABASES 204 THAT CONTAINS A TOPOLOGY OF THE NETWORK, AS A WORKING DATABASE FOR RECEIVING TOPOLOGY UPDATES DISCOVER A TOPOLOGY OF THE NETWORK 206 UPDATE THE WORKING DATABASE WITH 208 TOPOLOGY DISCOVERIES MONITOR A HEALTH OF NETWORK DURING THE DISCOVERING BASED ON THE NETWORK 210 TOPOLOGY IN THE ACTIVE DATABASE 212 DISCOVERY COMPLETE? NO YES 214 **FAULT DETECTED?** NO YES 216 -COMPARE THE TOPOLOGIES IN THE WORKING AND ACTIVE DATABASES 218 -DETERMINE A SOURCE OF THE FAULT BASED ON THE COMPARISON 220 SELECT THE WORKING DATABASE AS THE ACTIVE DATABASE 222 -SELECT ONE OF THE PLURALITY OF DATABASES AS THE WORKING DATABASE

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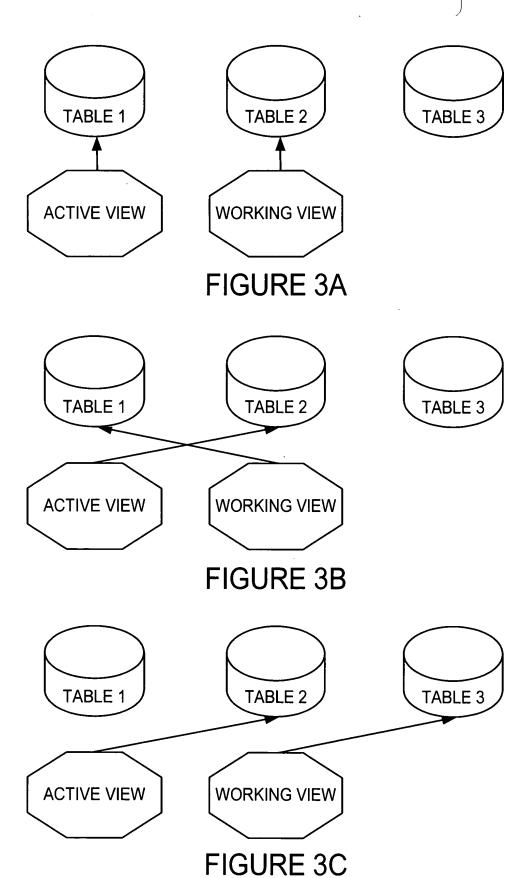
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FIGURE 2

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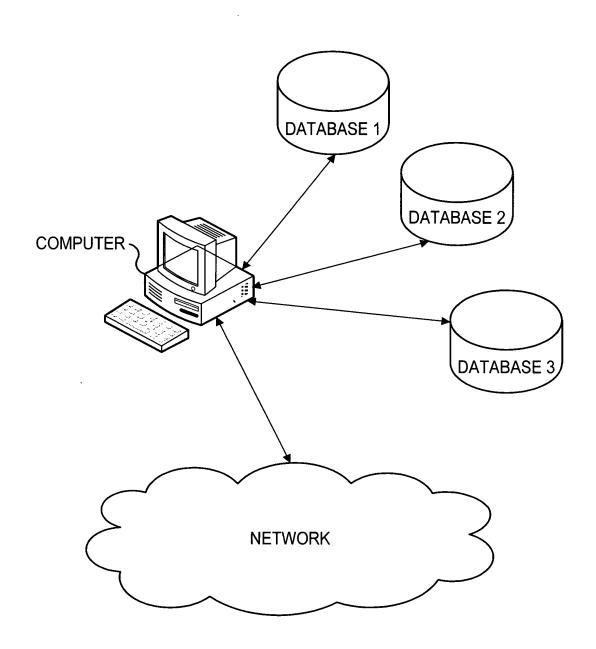


FIGURE 4